



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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12 FEBRUARY 1966

~~TOP SECRET~~

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DAILY BRIEF
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1. North Vietnam

[redacted] the second--and less interesting--half of politburo member Le Duc Tho's article on North Vietnamese party problems [redacted]

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[redacted] says that party cadres, faced with the new wartime situation, are slower and more unimaginative than ever in the performance of their duties.

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[redacted]

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2. South Vietnam

Premier Ky is making plans to visit Japan. [redacted]

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[redacted]

3. Soviet Union

[redacted]
Aleksandr Shelepin took over the job of supervising party personnel matters in the high-level shifts of last December.

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[redacted]
[redacted] Shelepin is indeed a comer. [redacted]

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The personnel job has traditionally come within the purview of the number two man in the party. [redacted]

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[redacted]

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4. Dominican Republic

There is no sign that the Dominican left will be mollified by the departure last night of former defense minister Rivera Caminero.

Garcia Godoy has presented the departure and the shift in police chiefs as resolving the latest crisis "in its essential points." Bosch and his fellow leftists apparently disagree. Bosch has now come out in open support of the general strike, which paralyzed life in the capital yesterday.

He would like to see it resumed after the weekend and continued until all the military chiefs and other officers mentioned in Garcia Godoy's ouster order of 6 January have left the country. He also wants those responsible for Thursday's shooting at the palace turned over to the courts for punishment.

Garcia Godoy is under intense pressure to meet these demands. It is even possible that the new defense minister may be willing to see the army and air force commanders go, and he may have advised the President to take them on one at a time.

5. Costa Rica

[redacted] Figueres has [redacted] calmed down and promises to restrict any protest about the election to the political arena. Candidate Oduber says he has now accepted his defeat. This should ease matters for the time being; however, if the official recount reverses Trejos' victory there could still be trouble.

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6. France

The French satellite did not get off the pad at Hammaguir this morning because of technical difficulties. The range has shut down for the day and the countdown may be resumed tomorrow.

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7. France

There are signs that De Gaulle may stretch his timetable for dealing with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. He may in fact be modifying his whole approach to the dismemberment of that organization.

On Thursday he intimated to Ambassador Bohlen that, while he would be suggesting changes in the organizational structure of NATO, he would not propose any changes in the treaty itself. The general was quite vague as to timing, saying he was in "no hurry."

An official at the Quai comments that if this represents the real De Gaulle view then he has reversed his field on NATO. The official thinks De Gaulle may have been influenced both by the elections and by a recent foreign office paper which made the point that without NATO France would be stripped of its right to keep troops in Germany.

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8. Japan

This week Japan announced that it is inviting ten Southeast Asian countries to Tokyo in April for talks on area-wide economic development. The conference may well prove a major step in the developing Japanese campaign, under the vigorous stewardship of Prime Minister Sato, to widen Japan's diplomatic horizons and win a more meaningful role in affairs of the region.

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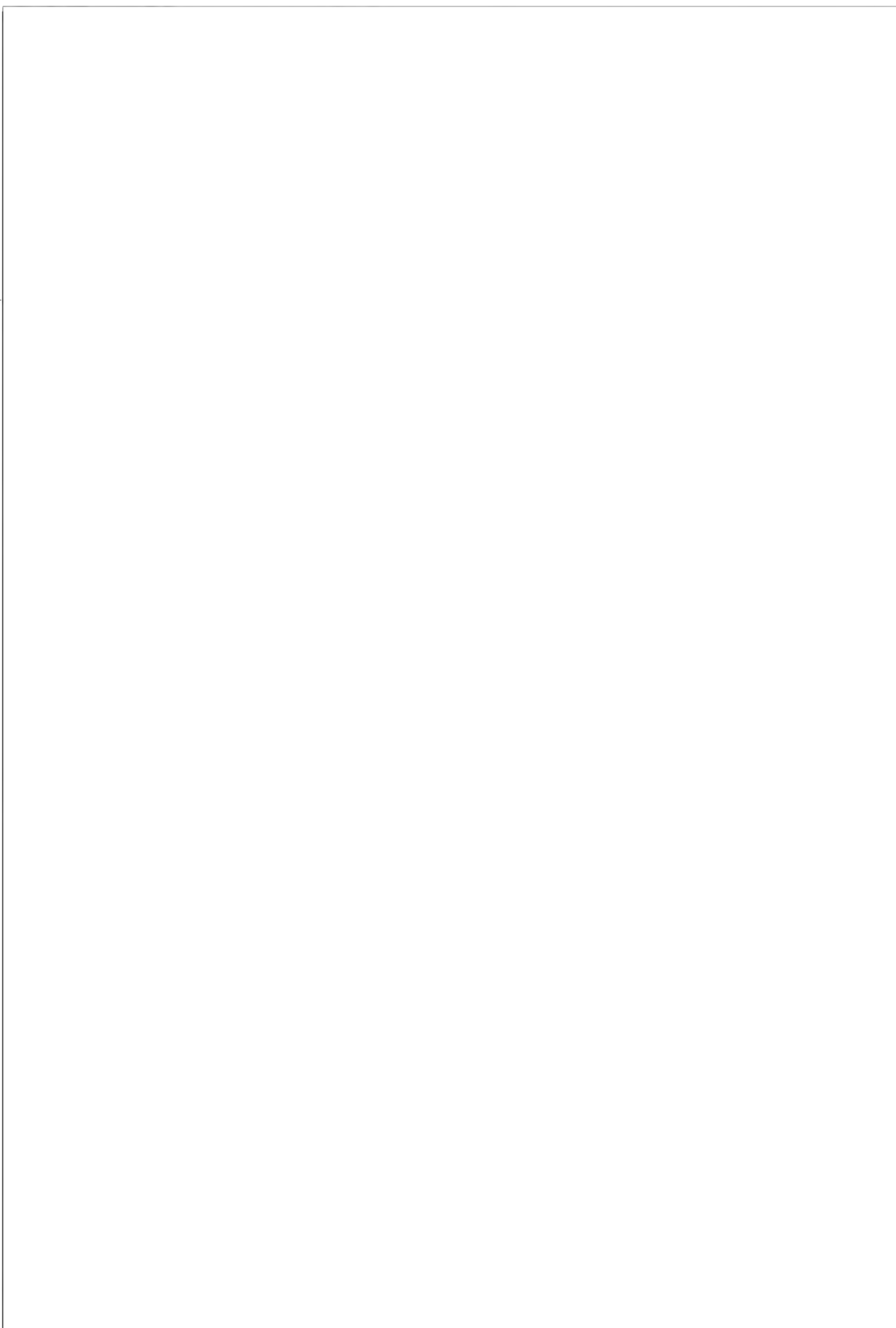
9. Uganda

The dangers of a coup attempt have receded. The principal mover in any try would have been former chief of staff Amin, but the latter has been so tarred by scandal that his supporters are deserting him en masse, leaving him with little chance of success.

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